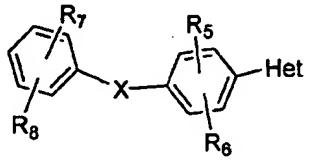
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound having the Formula *I*:



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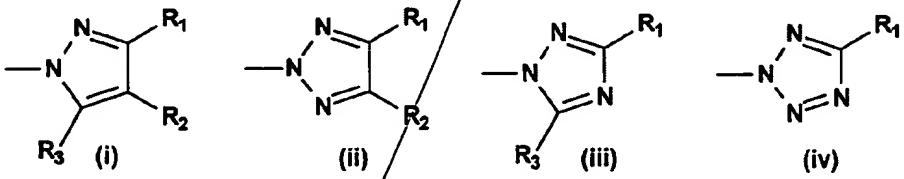
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof, wherein

X is one of O, S, NR_9, CH_2, $NR_9C(O)$, or $C(O)NR_9$, where R_9 is hydrogen or C_1-C_{10} alkyl;

Het is a heteroaryl selected from the group consisting of



R_1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, $C(O)R_{10}$, $CH_2C(O)R_{10}$, $S(O)R_{10}$, and SO_2R_{10};

R_2 and R_3 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, cyano, aminoalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, carboxyalkyl, alkylamino, dialkylamino, aminocarbonyl, alkylaminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, aralkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, arylcarbonylamino, aralkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, aminosulfonyl, alkylaminosulfonyl, and alkylsulfonyl;

R_5, R_6, R_7, and R_8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, haloalkyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyalkyl,

aminoalkyl, carboxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, nitro, amino, ureido, cyano, acylamino, amide, hydroxy, thiol, acyloxy, azido, alkoxy, carboxy, carbonylamido and alkylthiol;

R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of amino, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, OR_{11}, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkenylamino, dialkylaminoalkenyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycle, heteroaryl, aryl, aralkyl, arylalkenyl, arylalkynyl, and cycloalkylalkylamino;

R_{11} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, and an alkalimetal; and

provided that:

1) when Het is (ii), and X is O, then R_{10} is not alkyl, aralkyl, aryl or OR_{11};
2) when Het is (i) or (ii), then X is not NR_9;
3) when Het is (iii), then X is not CH_2; and
4) when Het is (iii), and X is O, then R_{10} is not OR_{11}.

2. A compound of claim 1, wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl optionally substituted by halogen, hydroxy, carbamoyloxy, C_{1-6} acyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino, aryl, or aminocarbonyl; $C(O)R_{10}$; $CH_2C(O)R_{10}$; or SO_2R_{10}, wherein R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, OR_{11}, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino, di(C_{1-6})alkylamino, C_{2-6} alkenylamino, heterocycle and mono- and di-(C_{1-6})alkylaminoalkenyl, and R_{11} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, and an alkalimetal.

3. A compound of claim 2, wherein R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, OR_{10}, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino, di(C_{1-6})alkylamino, C_{2-6} alkenylamino, di(C_{1-6})alkylamino(C_{2-6})alkenyl, N-morpholinyl, N-pyrrolidinyl, and N-piperazinyl.

4. A compound of claim 3, wherein R_2 and R_3 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_2-C_6 alkenyl,

C_2-C_6 alkynyl, amino(C_1-C_6)alkyl, amino, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, cyano, C_1-C_6 alkylsulfinyl, hydroxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6 alkylaminocarbonyl, C_6-C_{10} arylaminocarbonyl, C_6-C_{10} aryl(C_1-C_6)alkylaminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6 alkylcarbonylamino, C_6-C_{10} arylcarbonylamino, and C_6-C_{10} aryl(C_1-C_6)alkylcarbonylamino.

5. A compound of claim 3, wherein R_2 and R_3 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, amino(C_1-C_6)alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylthio and aminocarbonyl.

6. A compound of claim 1, wherein R_5, R_6, R_7, and R_8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, halo(C_1-C_6)alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, hydroxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, amino(C_1-C_6)alkyl, carboxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, alkoxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_6 acylamino, amide, hydroxy, thiol, C_1-C_6 acyloxy, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, carboxy, carbonylamido and C_1-C_6 alkylthiol.

7. A compound of claim 1, wherein R_1 or R_2 is $C(O)R_{10}$ or SO_2R_{10}.

8. A compound of claim 7, wherein where R_{10} is amino or $C_{1\text{-}6}$ alkyl.

9. A compound of claim 8, wherein X is O or S.

10. A compound of claim 9, wherein:
R_5 and R_6 are each hydrogen;
R_3 and R_4 are both H; and
R_7 and R_8 are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, halo(C_1-C_6)alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, hydroxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, amino(C_1-C_6)alkyl, carboxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, alkoxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, nitro,

amino, C_1-C_6 acylamino, amide, hydroxy, thiol, C_1-C_6 acyloxy, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, carboxy, carbonylamido and C_1-C_6 alkylthiol.

11. A compound of claim 10, wherein Het is (i).

12. A compound of claim 10, wherein Het is (ii).

13. A compound of claim 10, wherein Het is (iii).

14. A compound of claim 10, wherein Het is (iv).

15. A compound of claim 1, wherein:

Het is (i), (ii), (iii) or (vi);

R_1 is $C(O)R_{10}$, $CH_2C(O)R_{10}$, or SO_2R_{10};

X is O or S;

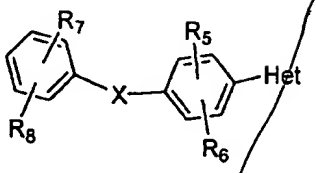
R_{10} is amino, optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, or a heterocycle selected from the group consisting of N-morpholinyl, N-pyrrolidinyl and N-piperazinyl;

R_2, and R_3 are independently hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylthio or C_1-C_6 alkylsulfinyl,

R_5 and R_6 are as defined above and are preferably hydrogen, and

R_7 and R_8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, halo(C_1-C_6)alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, hydroxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, amino(C_1-C_6)alkyl, carboxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, alkoxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_6 acylamino, amide, hydroxy, thiol, C_1-C_6 acyloxy, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, carboxy, carbonylamido and C_1-C_6 alkylthiol.

16. A compound of Formula *I*:



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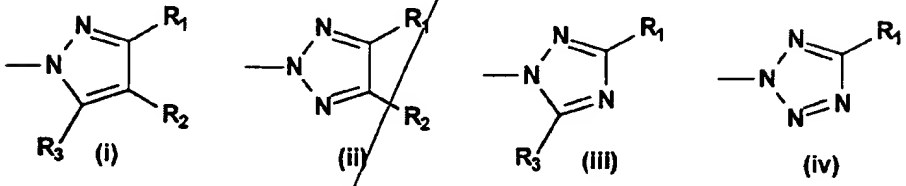
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof, wherein

X is O or S;

Het is a heteroaryl selected from the group consisting of



R_1 is $C(O)R_{10}$, $CH_2C(O)R_{10}$, or SO_2R_{10} wherein R_{10} is amino, alkyl, N-morpholinyl, N-pyrrolidinyl or N-piperazinyl, all of which can be optionally substituted;

R_2 and R_3 are independently hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylthio or C_1-C_6 alkylsulfinyl;

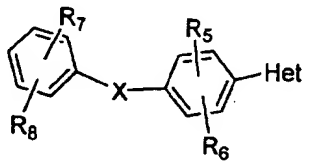
R_5, R_6, R_7 and R_8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, halo(C_1-C_6)alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, hydroxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, amino(C_1-C_6)alkyl, carboxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, alkoxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_6 acylamino, amide, hydroxy, thiol, C_1-C_6 acyloxy, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, carboxy, carbonylamido and C_1-C_6 alkylthiol;

provided that:

1) when Het is (ii), and X is O, then R_{10} is not alkyl, aralkyl, aryl or OR_{11}; and
2) when Het is (iii), and X is O, then R_{10} is not OR_{11}.

17. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the compound of claim 1 or 16 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

18. A method of treating a disorder responsive to the blockade of sodium channels in a mammal suffering therefrom, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of Formula *I*:



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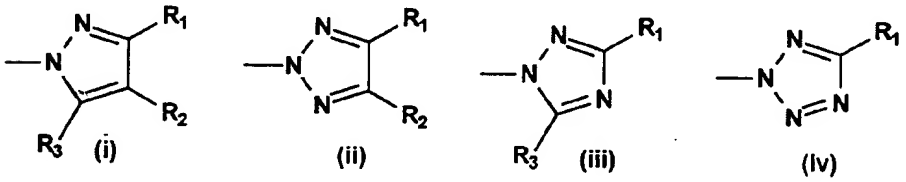
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof, wherein

X is one of O, S, NR_9, CH_2, $NR_9C(O)$, or $C(O)NR_9$, where R_9 is hydrogen or C_1-C_{10} alkyl;

Het is a heteroaryl selected from the group consisting of



R_1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, $C(O)R_{10}$, $CH_2C(O)R_{10}$, $S(O)R_{10}$, and SO_2R_{10};

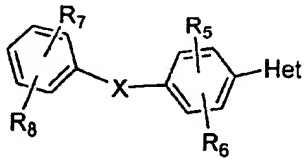
R_2 and R_3 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, cyano, aminoalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, carboxyalkyl, alkylamino, dialkylamino, aminocarbonyl, alkylaminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, aralkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, arylcarbonylamino, aralkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, aminosulfonyl, alkylaminosulfonyl, and alkylsulfonyl;

R_5, R_6, R_7, and R_8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, haloalkyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, carboxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, nitro, amino, ureido, cyano, acylamino, amide, hydroxy, thiol, acyloxy, azido, alkoxy, carboxy, carbonylamido and alkylthiol;

R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of amino, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, OR_{11}, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkenylamino, dialkylaminoalkenyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycle, heteroaryl, aryl, aralkyl, arylalkenyl, arylalkynyl, and cycloalkylalkylamino;

R_{11} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, and an alkalimetal.

19. A method for treating, preventing or ameliorating neuronal loss following global and focal ischemia; treating, preventing or ameliorating neurodegenerative conditions; treating, preventing or ameliorating pain or tinnitus; treating, preventing or ameliorating manic depression; providing local anesthesia; or treating arrhythmias, or treating convulsions, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of Formula *I*:



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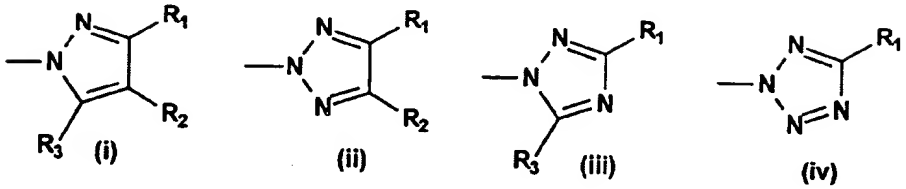
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof, wherein

X is one of O, S, NR_9, CH_2, $NR_9C(O)$, or $C(O)NR_9$, where R_9 is hydrogen or C_1-C_{10} alkyl;

Het is a heteroaryl selected from the group consisting of



R_1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, $C(O)R_{10}$, $CH_2C(O)R_{10}$, $S(O)R_{10}$, and SO_2R_{10};

R_2 and R_3 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, cyano, aminoalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, carboxyalkyl, alkylamino, dialkylamino, aminocarbonyl, alkylaminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, aralkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, arylcarbonylamino, aralkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, aminosulfonyl, alkylaminosulfonyl, and alkylsulfonyl;

R_5, R_6, R_7, and R_8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, haloalkyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, carboxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, nitro, amino, ureido, cyano, acylamino, amide, hydroxy, thiol, acyloxy, azido, alkoxy, carboxy, carbonylamido and alkylthiol;

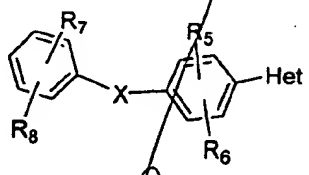
R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of amino, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, OR_{11}, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkenylamino, dialkylaminoalkenyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycle, heteroaryl, aryl, aralkyl, arylalkenyl, arylalkynyl, and cycloalkylalkylamino;

R_{11} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, and an alkalimetal.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the method is for treating, preventing or ameliorating pain and said pain is one of neuropathic pain, surgical pain or chronic pain.

21. A method of alleviating or preventing seizure activity in an animal subject, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or 16.

22. A compound of Formula *I*:



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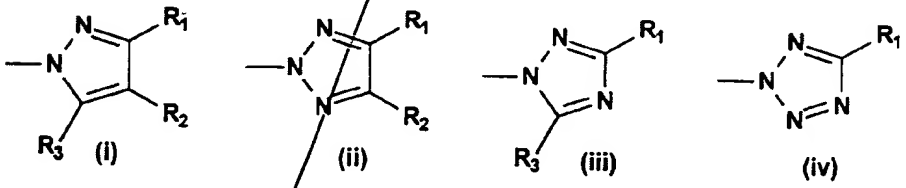
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof, wherein

X is O or S;

Het is a heteroaryl selected from the group consisting of



(i) (ii) (iii) (iv)

R_1 is $C(O)R_{10}$, wherein R_{10} is amino, N-morpholinyl, N-pyrrolidinyl or N-piperazinyl, all of which can be optionally substituted

R_2 and R_3 are independently hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylthio or C_1-C_6 alkylsulfinyl;

R_5, R_6, R_7 and R_8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, halo(C_1-C_6)alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, hydroxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, amino(C_1-C_6)alkyl, carboxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, alkoxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_6 acylamino, amide, hydroxy, thiol, C_1-C_6 acyloxy, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, carboxy, carbonylamido and C_1-C_6 alkylthiol.

23. A compound of claim 22, wherein X is O.